

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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FOR: PGN/RC AND VOA WASHDC AND CINCPAC FOR PETTUS

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - VICE PRESIDENT'S TRIP

TWO PRO-GOVERNMENT DAILIES, SUARA KARYA AND BERITA YUDHA
MAY 5 CARRIED IDENTICAL FRONT-PAGE STORIES, HEADED,
"WELCOMING THE MONDALE VISIT."
NOTING NEWS REPORTS THAT "MONDALE WAS NOT RPT NOT
WARMLY WARMLY WELCOMED IN MANILA, ALTHOUGH HE CAME WITH
A BIG AID PACKAGE," THE NEWSPAPERS' STORY ATTRIBUTED THE
COOL" RECEPTION TO THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DESIRE TO "TALK
WITH OPPOSITION GROUP" MEMBERS.
THE STORY THEN REPORTED THAT "OUTSIDERS" ARE INTERESTED
IN PROMOTING AN INTERVIEW WITH "PEOPLE DEFENDERS" IN
INDONESIA. "WHO IS MEANT BY PEOPLE DEFENDERS?"
THE STORY ASKED. "IS NOT THE INDONESIA GOVERNMENT, THE
HOST, THE DEFENDER OF ITS PEOPLE? IS MR. MONDALE
INTERESTED IN LAUNCHING SOME 'PRESSURES'?
"INDONESIA, AS THE HOST, CERTAINLY WILL HONOR ITS
GUEST," THE STORY CONCLUDED. "BUT IT MUST ALSO BE
REMEMBERED THAT THE VISITOR SHOULD ALSO HONOR HIS
HOST, IS THAT NOT CORRECT?"

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MEANWHILE, MAY 5 BERITA BUANA, A DAILY WITH CLOSE
TIES TO THE ARMED FORCES, REPORTED IN A NEWS STORY
THAT MONDALE WILL HAVE AN "INCOGNITO" MEETING WITH
ADNAN BUYUNG NASUTION SH AND PROF. DR. MAHAR MARDJONO.
THE NEWSPAPER SAID THE MEETING IS NOT INCLUDED ON
THE GOI'S OFFICIAL ITINERARY FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT.
IT QUOTED AN UNNAMED SOURCE AS SAYING IT WOULD BE

" PROPER TO FOLLOW THE NEWSPAPER WITH TIES TO VICE
PRESIDENT ADAM MALIK, IN A MAY 5 EDITORIAL ENTITLED,
"THE STATE VISIT OF WALTER MONDALE" SAID:
(BEGIN EXCERPTS)

...IF THE...RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS IS
TO BE DISCUSSED...THERE ARE, IN OUR OPINION, SOME
MAIN ISSUES TO BE TAKEN UP. THESE ARE: THE DECLINING
OIL EXPORTS FROM INDONESIA TO THE UNITED STATES, THE
THE SALE OF LIQUID GAS FROM ARUN AND BONTANG TO THE
U.S., AND, MOST IMPORTANT, THE INDONESIAN ARCHIPELAGIC
CONCEPT (WAWASAN NUSANTARA). WE CONSIDER THE
LATTER AN IMPORTANT ITEM FOR DISCUSSION, BECAUSE TO
FORM AN ECONOMICALLY UNIFIED...INDONESIA, WHICH
CONSISTS OF THOUSANDS OF ISLANDS, IT IS NECESSARY TO
SET MARITIME BORDERS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE GUARANTEE OF
INDONESIA'S RIGHT TO MANAGE ITS DEEP SEA RESOURCES."
(END EXCERPTS)

BERITA YUDHA IN A MAY 5 EDITORIAL SAID THE VICE
PRESIDENT'S VISIT "OPENS A NEW ROUND IN RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN AND
PACIFIC NATIONS...NONE OF THE COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED
BY MONDALE WILL REFUSE AMERICA'S HELPING HAND...AS A
COUNTRY AND A NATION ALWAYS FRIENDLY TO THE U.S.,
WE WILL OPENHEARTEDLY AND INTIMATELY WELCOME THE
VISIT OF VICE PRESIDENT WALTER F. MONDALE."
THE INDEPENDENT DAILY KOMPAS, ONE OF THE NATION'S
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LEADING NEWSPAPERS, SAID IN AN EDITORIAL, SAID, "THE
MISSION (OF THE VICE PRESIDENT)--WHICH EMPHASIZES
GOODWILL, COOPERATION AND ATTENTION TO COOPERATION
AND PROBLEMS OF THE REGION--ALSO REFLECTS A RECENT
TREND IN WORLD DEVELOPMENTS--THAT IS THAT THE WORLD
HAS BECOME MORE UNIFIED AND MORE INTERDEPENDENT,
NOT ONLY IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD BUT IN TERMS OF HOPES
AND ASPIRATIONS.

"IF HE (THE VICE PRESIDENT) WANTS TO HELP PROMOTE
HUMAN PROGRESS IN THE REGION THEN (HE SHOULD) LET
THE MOST BASIC AND COMPREHENSIVE TASKS BE PERFORMED
BY THE NATIONS THEMSELVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR
ROOTS, VALUES AND (INDIVIDUAL) ORIENTATIONS."
THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE INDONESIAN TIMES IN AN EDITORIAL
LARGELY DEVOTED TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS OF
THE VISIT SAID IT "ADMIRE" U.S. ACHIEVEMENTS IN
THE FIELD AND RECOGNIZES THAT AMERICANS ARE "SENSITIVE"
TO VIOLATIONS" OF HUMAN RIGHTS...IT IS A PRODUCT
OF TWO CENTURIES OF DEMOCRATIC STRUGGLE.
"IN OUR 32 YEARS OF STRUGLE AS A FREE NATION WE
SURELY CANNOT ACHIEVE THAT MUCH. OUR PRIME CONCERN
NOW IS NOT ERADICATION OF SUFFERING CAUSED BY VIOLATIONS

OF LAW BUT TO FREE OUR PEOPLE FROM THE SUFFERINGS CAUSED
BY HUNGER AND POVERTY..."
MOST LEADING DAILINES MAY 5 GAVE PROMINENT ATTENTION
TO THE PENDING VISIT, EITHER RUNNING IN FULL OR QUOTING
FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL NEWS AGENCIES. THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE INDONESIAN OBSERVER CARRIED NHAN DAN'S
COMMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT INTERESTED IN THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA.
THE VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT
THE UNITED STATES IS ONLY TRYING TO DEFEND THE
PRIVILEGES OF AMERICAN CAPITAL AS AGAINST COMPETITION
FROM JAPANESE AND WEST EUROPEAN COMPANIES. ENDUSINFO.
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